



Residence of Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Wherritt, one of the finest early homes in Heber. Built in the early 1900's by John Austin and purchased by Dr. Wherritt in 1908. It was built before electricity and city water were supplied. Water for the home was hand pumped from a well on the lot to tanks in the top of the home which supplied pressured water. It is still one of the outstanding homes of the city.

Sheep raising has been one of the principal industries of Wasatch county for many years, and during the past few years, it has perhaps exceeded in its industry any other county in the state, and John E. Austin is the leading sheepman of the county. He is one of the heaviest stockholders and general manager of the Heber Land and Live Stock Company, one of the largest stock-growing companies in the state.

He was born in England, February 1868, but came to Utah with his parents when less than two years of age, settling at Lehi where he lived until the year 1886, when he came to this valley with a small herd of sheep belonging to himself and Ira D. Wines. A few years later he bought out the interest of Wines and began investing in real estate. He bought the Howe

farm of 160 acres on Center creek, considered one of the best farms in the county and gradually increased his holdings from year until he became the owner of several thousand acres. His sheep multiplied upon his hands until he was one of the largest sheep owners in the county. Two years ago he and his brother George, manager of the Utah Sugar company, together with a few other stock men of the state incorporated the Heber Land and Live Stock Company, with a capital stock of \$100,000. A year later the capital stock was increased to \$150,000, John E. and George Austin owning about 60 per cent of the stock. The business of the company this year amounted to nearly \$400,000.

Mr. Austin is chairman of the board of county commissioners of this county, and also chairman of the state board of sheep commissioners.

On the seventh day of March, 1891, he married Sadie Thomas, a Wasatch county maiden, and one of whom any man might well be proud. He has one of the finest homes in Wasatch county, being a beautiful brick structure of modern architectural design.



JOHN E. AUSTIN.

